

REMARKS

Applicants have cancelled claim 7 and amended claims 1 and 4 to reflect the invention as disclosed. Claims 1-4, 6 and 8-10 have been also amended to correct minor matters of English usage and to reflect the cancellation of claim 7.

Claims 1-10 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over European Patent Publication No. EP 1020840 (Ishii) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,745,088 (Kornher). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 1 as amended states that at least one of the retaining circuits is provided as a common retaining circuit for two or more of the pixel element electrodes so that an output of the common retaining circuit is shared by said two or more of the pixel element electrodes, and each of said two or more of the pixel element electrodes is connected to only one signal line. Support for the claimed connection of the pixel element electrodes sharing the common retaining circuit is found, for example, at page 14, lines 3-12, of the specification and FIG. 4 of this application. In particular, circuit selection circuit 43 including P-channel circuit selection TFT 44 and N-channel circuit selection TFT 45, which selects the output of the common retaining circuit, is connected to corresponding pixel element electrodes 17a, 17b through contact 16. No other signal line is connected to the pixel element electrode. This connection of the pixel element electrodes sharing the common retaining circuit, which inevitably reduces the display resolution, can be employed because the claimed display device also operates under the claimed normal operation mode in which an analog image is displayed without sacrificing the full pixel resolution of the display device. See for example, page 13, lines 19-29, of the specification.

The Examiner admits that Ishii does not teach or suggest the claimed connection of the pixel element electrodes sharing the common retaining circuit. To try to overcome the

deficiency of Ishii, the Examiner contends that Kornher's elements 11 and memory cell 12 teach the claimed connection of the pixel element electrodes sharing the common retaining circuit. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Kornher teaches storing data separately into the individual elements 11 sharing the memory cell 12. The Abstract of Kornher summarizes this feature and states, "Each element (11) in a set is switched to an on or off state via a reset line (13) that is separate from that of the other elements (11) in that set. ... Thus, the same memory cell (12) can be used to deliver data to all elements (11) in its fanout because only one element (11) in the fanout is switched at a time." In other words, only one of the elements 11 sharing the memory cell 12 is turned on by the reset line 13 to transfer data from the shared memory cell 12. Further detailed description is found at column 2, lines 43-56, of Kornher. Accordingly, Kornher's element 11, which the Examiner equates to the claimed pixel element electrode, is connected to at least two signal lines, i.e., the signal line extending from the memory cell 12 and the reset line 13. Kornher's elements 11 must be connected to the reset lines 13 in addition to the lines connected to the memory cell 12 because otherwise the elements 11 connected to one memory cell 12 would operate as a single pixel and thus reduce the display resolution. On the other hand, in the claimed connection the pixel element electrode is connected to only one signal line and does not require connection to a reset line.

Ishii and Kornher together do not teach or suggest the connection of the pixel element electrodes sharing the common retaining circuit of claim 1.

Claim 4 as amended states at least one of the retaining circuit is provided as a common retaining circuit for two or more of the pixel element electrodes so that an output of the common retaining circuit is applied to all of said two or more of the pixel element electrodes at the same

time. Support for this amendment is found, for example, at page 14, lines 3-12, of the specification.

As explained above, in Kornher's device only one of the elements 11 sharing one memory cell 12 receives data at a time. Thus, neither Kornher nor Ishii teaches or suggests the feature of claim 4 that the output of the common retaining circuit is applied to all of the pixel element electrodes sharing the common retaining circuit at the same time.

Claim 7 has been cancelled.

Ishii and Kornher together do not teach or suggest the claimed invention as a whole. Thus, the rejection of claims 1-10 under 35 USC 103(a) over Ishii and Kornher should be withdrawn.

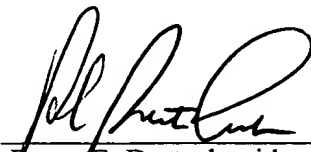
In light of the above, a Notice of Allowance is solicited.

In the event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952**, referencing Docket No. 492322002500.

Respectfully submitted,

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